

TAKING COOPERATION FORWARD

OUTPUT FACT SHEET

Tools

Version 2

Project index number and acronym	4STEPS
Output number and title	О.Т3.2
Responsible partner (PP name and number)	PP 3 ARRSA
Project website	https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/4STEPS.html
Delivery date	03/2022

Summary description of the key features of the tool (developed and/or implemented) and of its transnational added value



ARRSA has implemented pilot action related to creation of Digital Innovation Hub with robotic arms showroom, based on the already existing infrastructure of FabLab, equipped with cutting-edge technologies. The main ambition for DIH is to become an efficient tool for increasing regional competitiveness by:

- being local innovation center that disseminates cutting edge technologies
- raising awareness of digital fabrication, rapid prototyping and innovative technologies through organizing workshops and trainings educational program, talent creation and competence building
- introducing ideas to the market and transferring them into the product
- merging all parts of local innovation ecosystem, involving new actors and increasing existing innovative potential of the region
- stimulating regional labor market as a competence development center
- enabling companies to follow the Industry 4.0 principles and improve efficiency of their services and products

With 4STEPS project ARRSA was able to test different format of activities - on-spot and on-line, tailored to the needs of certain target group. It was related both to creating partnerships and cooperation for the sake of boosting digital transformation of the region, as well as to inventing new, innovative formats of engagement of stakeholders:

- on-line event, broadcasted live from professional TV studio with interactive, virtual discussion rooms
- technology breakfast dedicated to the topic of robotization and automation of production processes
- individual one-to-one consultations service being an answer to the COVID-19 pandemic and related restrictions - possibility of a meeting with FabLab manager who demonstrate the work of robotic arms, programming of simple production line, explaining the added value, benefits and increase of competitiveness when implementing Industry 4.0 in companies
- showroom 4 schools event tailoring activities to young people, providing difficult, technological knowledge in fun and accessible way

Main products and services offered by DIH are based on the equipment, knowledge and expertise of FabLab. We have in-house 4 out of 9 technologies indicated as relevant pillars of Industry 4.0 identified within the scope of the 4STEPS project. Those are:

1. Autonomous robots; 2. Simulation 3. Industrial Internet of Things 4. Additive manufacturing

NUTS region(s) where the tool has been developed and/or implemented (relevant NUTS level)

The pilot action was tested in PL225 bielski region - the main impact area of ARRSA. Due to the fact that some of the activities were held on-line it is hard to indicated the geographical limits - the language of the event was Polish so it was possible that it has an impact on whole territory of Poland

Expected impact and benefits of the tool for the concerned territories and target groups





Expected impact of the iLaBB 43300 Digital Innovation Hub is defined in the value proposition prepared by ARRSA and entities engaged in the development of DIH during the lifetime of the 4STEPS project. In general, its role is to unlock the digital potential of the region by facilitating the cooperation of Industry 4.0 related stakeholders, competence building and awareness raising activities, demonstrating cutting edge technologies and enabling test-before-invest services for companies.

Ambition is to become an efficient tool for increasing regional competitiveness by:

- Being local innovation center that disseminates cutting edge technologies raising awareness of digital fabrication, rapid prototyping and innovative technologies through organizing workshops and trainings educational program, talent creation and competence building
- Introducing ideas to the market and transferring them into the product
- Merging all parts of local innovation ecosystem, involving new actors and increasing existing innovative potential of the region
- Stimulating regional labor market as a competence development center
- Enabling companies to follow the Industry4.0 principles and improve efficiency of their services and products
- Activate local society and inhabitants to be active, innovative and inclusive
- Support and stimulate local education sector to meet the needs and growing interest of employing high qualified and skilled staff
- Building an effective and sustainable cooperation platform for all players of local ecosystem
- Establish one-stop-shop to merge physical facilitates with the innovation potential of the region, digitalization technologies and social needs of the local community
- Creating a platform for cooperation between different stakeholders especially for education and competence gap fulfillment
- Funding for startup companies from the seed capital accelerator and loan and guarantee fund to develop the business and skills
- Brokering and ecosystem building activities

Sustainability of the tool and its transferability to other territories and stakeholders



Testing of the pilot action enabled ARRSA to explore regional ecosystem of innovation, map relevant stakeholders and make strong connections with some of them. Robotic arms showroom and development of new services gave us new possibilities and connected us with new target groups. The biggest challenge for ARRSA as a DIH coordinator will be to ensure its sustainability - both in terms of the financial model as well as governance. Steps already taken to facilitate the process of creation sustainable structure of DIH:

- Participation in different EU initiatives i.e. Digitalisation Working Group of EURADA, European Digital Innovation Hub Consortium
- Mapping of relevant Industry 4.0 initiatives and applying to become a member of, e.g I4MS community
- cooperation with local and regional organizations with same priorities
- creating synergies with other EU funded projects, applying for new funds with the projects from the same Industry 4.0 scope
- following the trends setting up-to-date workplan of activities, tailored to different target groups and taking into account new global trend like shifting to Industry 5.0
- We became a partner in a consortium Silesia Smart System (SSS), applying to the status of European Digital Innovation Hub, organized on a regional level together with relevant stakeholders operating in the scope of digitalisation, e.g., Katowicka Special Economic Zone (Consortium Leader), Silesian Technical University, Łukasiewicz Reaserch Network. SSS was preselected on the national level and submit an application to the European Commission call
- Best practice exchange ARRSA constantly tries to improve its services by networking with local as well as international entities related to digitalisation, entrepreneurship development and innovation capacity building. On 04. 08. 2021 went to hub4industry and Astor Robotics Centre in Kraków, where representatives of those institutions showed us good practices in terms of organization of showroom spaces, activities to be provided, event formulas to implement as well as possible models of DIH governance and funding schemes. Since march 2021 ARRSA is a member of Digitalisation Working Group supported by EURADA (European Association of Regional Development Agencies) and FundingBox.
- Follow-up projects in the course of implementation of the 4STEPS project we were looking for further funding possibilities to develop our DIH. We successfully applied to become a partner in AS TRANSFER project, funded under URBACT III programme. It is a transfer mechanism network and its scope is to transfer the good practice of AS FABRIK was conceived to increase the competitiveness of the local KIBS (Knowledge Intense Based Services) sector and prepare them to supply the digital transformation demands of the manufacturing sector (Industry 4.0). A strategic alliance based on knowledge and innovation that aims to improve the local ecosystems of cities, with city businesses, universities, local service providers and entrepreneurs hosted in a tailor-made innovative space

References to relevant deliverables and web-links If applicable, pictures or images to be provided as annex









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